U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of THOMAS C. REVELL, SR. and U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, POST OFFICE, Washington, DC

Docket No. 98-373; Submitted on the Record; Issued November 1, 1999

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, BRADLEY T. KNOTT

The issues are: (1) whether appellant established that his cervical condition and carpal tunnel syndrome were causally related to his employment; and (2) whether the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs abused its discretion by denying merit review of appellant's claim.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issues involved, the contentions on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the decision of the Office hearing representative dated October 27, 1997 and finalized October 29, 1997 is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the hearing representative.

The decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated October 27, 1997 and finalized October 29, 1997 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. November 1, 1999

> George E. Rivers Member

Willie T.C. Thomas Alternate Member

Alternate Member